

Joseph H. Choate, ambassador to the court of St. James, recently advocated the abolition of Fourth of July celebrations in England, "because of the unpleasant significance of the event they commemorate." Mr. Choate is the favorite candidate for the presidency of that eminent reorganizer, Don M. Dickinson. Are we to understand that this will be the Choate platform?

Mr. Choate's Platform.

The retirement of Wu Ting Fang, the Chinese minister to the United States, will be regretted by the very large number of people who have learned to appreciate the great ability and rare good nature of this Chinese statesman. Mr. Wu has been able to beat down, so far as he is concerned, the prejudice in this country against the Chinese character, and his departure will be generally regretted.

Goodbye to Mr. Wu.

According to the answer of the United States Steel corporation made before Vice Chancellor Emery at Newark, N. J., the earnings of that great trust aggregate \$140,000,000 per year. The value of the trust property is fixed at \$1,400,000,000 and it is admitted that the conversion plan contemplates a payment of \$10,000,000 to J. Pierpont Morgan & Co. This is the great aggregation of wealth concerning which Attorney General Knox recently reported to the president as not in violation of the anti-trust law.

Yet It Is Not a Trust.

The National Grocer company has been organized with a capitalization of \$5,000,000. The purpose of the concern is to gain control of the wholesale grocery houses in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Missouri, and Michigan. The new trust will begin operations August 1. Another indication that it may be necessary in the near future "to shackle cunning as in the past we have shackled force." And another demonstration of the fact that the republican administration, if it is really the shackler of cunning, is not working much at its trade these days.

No Shackles for Cunning.

The Kansas City Journal says: "The United States can, by announcing that the friars are a menace to the peace of the country, expel them from the islands." It seems to be generally understood that the United States can do pretty nearly anything in their new possessions, and yet if by a mere announcement that a man is "a menace to the peace of the country," the authorities may expel men from United States territory, the authorities would have, we think, considerably more power than the American people ever intended to confer upon mere men.

Power for Mere Men.

Walter Wellman, the Washington correspondent for the Chicago Record-Herald, says: "Without doubt President Roosevelt's sincerity in his anti-trust crusade will be largely judged by two facts: Is he willing to bring the existing law to bear against such monopolistic combinations as the anthracite and tobacco trusts, which do not depend upon the tariff? Is he willing to urge reduction of customs duties so that combinations like the steel trust, the glass trust and the leather trust may have their unnecessarily high prices regulated by the danger of foreign competition?" Mr. Wellman might have added, "Is he willing to bring criminal proceedings against the wealthy violators of the anti-trust law and hold them as

rigidly to account under the criminal law as the less influential violators are held?" If, however, Mr. Roosevelt's sincerity in his anti-trust crusade will be judged by these facts, intelligent men will not have great confidence in the Roosevelt anti-trust crusade. He has, so far, shown his unwillingness to bring the existing law to bear against trusts generally. He has failed to enforce the criminal section of the anti-trust law and, although congress was in session for seven months, Mr. Roosevelt never suggested to congress that it would be well to reduce the custom duties so that combinations may have their "unnecessarily high prices regulated by the danger of foreign competition."

In passing upon the court-martial findings in the case of Major L. W. T. Waller and Lieutenant Day, General Chaffee said that the "acts of these officers partook more of unlawful retaliation than a justifiable act of war;" also that the execution of the natives was contrary "to the reasonable demand of civilized nations that war shall be pursued with the least possible cruelty and injustice." It is also stated: "In the opinion of the reviewing authority, the evidence is opposed to the findings of the court;" and after saying all this, the reviewing authority approves the acquittal of Major Waller and Lieutenant Day.

Acquittal After all.

The Des Moines Register and Leader, republican, says: "Admiral Schley uttered an admirable sentiment when he said, 'There is glory enough for all.' The unfortunate controversies of that campaign are not yet dead, but already it is apparent that in the end this sentiment will be the sentiment of the country, and when it is a large and deserved glory will be spontaneously awarded to this faithful commander, whose bravery, capacity and untiring vigilance brought fresh renown to the American navy and gave our flag an added importance upon the seas." The republican president, by insinuation, sought to put the brand of cowardice upon Admiral Schley. The republican senate refused to incorporate in a bill formal recognition of the fact that Schley was actually in command in the battle of Santiago Bay, but passed a bill providing for placing Schley upon the retired list with the full pay of a rear admiral. But even this measure failed to pass the republican house. So far as the American people are concerned, Schley has already won the glory. This republican paper that seems to be friendly to the hero of Santiago Bay might bend its energies toward persuading the leaders of its own party to refrain from doing injustice to Schley.

Don M. Dickinson, who was postmaster general in Mr. Cleveland's cabinet, was "too good a democrat" to support the democratic ticket in 1896 or in 1900: and in this year of 1902 Don M. Dickinson is so "good a democrat" that he has chosen Joseph

An Eminent Reorganizer.

H. Choate, United States ambassador at the court of St. James, as his candidate for the presidency. In a speech delivered at London on the evening of July 7, Mr. Dickinson said: "Mr. Choate does not belong to my party, but it is very near to the heart of the American people that he shall go from the court of St. James to the presidential chair, and I wish he may get it." It will be somewhat surprising to many people in the United States to hear Mr. Choate mentioned in connection with the presidency, and many more will be surprised when they are told that "it is very near to the heart of the American people that he shall go from the court of St. James to the presidential chair." What manner of surprise does Mr. Dickinson have in store for us? He is an eminent re-

organizer. Can it be possible that after he has reorganized the democratic party to his own liking, he will take the platform in the national convention in 1904 and present the name of Joseph H. Choate as the democratic candidate for the presidency?

The Chicago Tribune enumerates the rights guaranteed to the Filipinos by the Philippine bill, and says: "If the Filipinos have it in them to become a self-governing people now is their opportunity to acquire the rudiments of a political education and show that they are deserving of all the rights Americans enjoy. Most of them congress has already given the Filipinos." But the most important privilege of all is denied them. They are to be "citizens of the Philippines"—citizens of a government that does not, in fact, exist. They are denied the right of setting up a government for themselves and are also denied the privilege of becoming citizens of the government that has been forced upon them. They will have no opportunity to "show that they have it in them to become a self-governing people," because, by the provisions of the Philippine bill, they are not accorded the privilege of participating seriously in the government that has been set above them.

The Important Privilege.

The New York World gives the public this bit of consolation: "The beef packers are promptly meting out their punishment to the public. The eighty millions of Americans have the temerity to object to being robbed, and the government, after much pressure, brought action which has not yet acted so far as prices are concerned. The packers, accepting this as a piece of impertinence, now proceed to form a new trust that will place them above all the laws against increasing prices. It begins to look as though the poor public had better keep quiet or cease to exist." If the "poor public" does not possess the courage and industry to stand up for its rights against a handful of men who seek to impose upon it, then it would be better for the poor public "to keep quiet or cease to exist." But if the American people shall become thoroughly aroused and shall be persuaded to use the power within their grasp, there is no trust and no coterie of men seeking to thrive upon public misery that can long withstand the determined assault.

The Poor Public.

It is safe to say that the explanation for the administration's failure to bring criminal proceedings against the members of the beef combine is found in the fact that the criminal clause of the federal anti-trust law is very clear and conviction could readily be obtained. It is something of a problem to know just how to deal with a trust that is represented by a single corporation. But when a number of men representing different concerns, as in the beef combine, conspire in restraint of trade, with the ample evidence already at hand to support of civil proceedings there would be little difficulty in making a criminal proceeding effective. An effective criminal prosecution would land every member of the beef combine behind the bars in short order. The members of this combine are enormously wealthy men. They are influential in commercial circles. They have powerful political influence and it would not do for these rich transgressors of the law to be placed in jail. Such a thing is not to be thought of. Jails were built for unimportant men who violate the law. Rich and powerful men who conspire against the very life of the people are to be dealt with through the clumsy process of injunction proceedings.

Too Effective a Weapon.